



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

which call for solution. Difficult as were the economic problems of war, those of peace will be still harder. In war there is one objective—to defeat the enemy. To this end all else must be made subservient. But the programme of reconstruction is not so definite and is consequently infinitely more perplexing and confused. These problems are raised but not answered in this volume.

A collection of readings is often thought to be disconnected, scrappy, and without real value. The present volume proves that such a book can be made to tell a connected story, which loses nothing of its interest because of the large number of authors, while it gains in authority. The selections are carefully made and edited so as to eliminate all extraneous material. The result is a compilation of value both to the student and to the general reader.

E. L. BOGART.

BOOKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY

The Development of the United States from Colonies to a World Power. By MAX FARRAND, Professor of History in Yale University. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1918. Pp. xi, 356. \$1.50.)

THIS is an odd book. The author says (p. 298): "If there be any value in the sketch of American development that has been attempted in this book, it must lie in the recognition that a great variety of forces produced the modern American and in the presentation of elements sometimes neglected." These last appear to be the westward spread of settlement and alterations in the structure of society as based upon the development of means of communication and internal commerce. While avowing himself in the introduction to be a disciple of Professor F. J. Turner, he expressly declines to follow him into a study of sectionalism. "It may well be", he says (p. 135), "that an appreciation of the strength of sectionalism is essential to a correct understanding of the development of the United States, but a greater force than sectionalism was here at work. Internal commerce was an all-important factor in developing nationality." Sectionalism, accordingly, receives slight attention, and, doubtless for similar reasons, the subjects of banking, western inflationism, and, notably, the development of political beliefs as the result of western expansion are either omitted or barely mentioned.

The book contains lucid and interesting analyses of the things the author considers important, such as the economic conditions and social developments in the colonies, the young republic, the new West, the growing industrial state after the Civil War, and finally the present capitalist country. But the author has written this book not merely to emphasize the things he considers important but also to indicate those in which he takes no interest, and it so happens that in the last category

repose most of the subjects which have heretofore been supposed to make up American history. Not content with concentrating attention upon commercial growth he cannot refrain from constantly indicating how unimportant in his eyes are wars, politics, legislation, personalities, and events in general. He does this by epithets, by phraseology, by extreme brevity and visible indifference. Side by side he employs two styles, one clear-cut, vigorous, plausible, to describe social changes, the other tentative, general, frequently vague, to deal with the narrative. We are told authoritatively just what the public land system did for the country, but we are left in the dark as to how Texas came to be annexed. Forty thousand Americans settled in Texas, after which, we are told, "There could be but one outcome of such a condition, the establishment of the independence of Texas, which took place in 1836, and then annexation to the United States." This is not an extreme instance, but fairly typical.

One wonders for what audience the book was written. In spite of its admirable chapters on commerce and settlement, it would scarcely be usable by college classes on account of its persistent vagueness in other fields. As for the general reader, while he could hardly fail to be interested in the social chapters, he might well be puzzled if not repelled by the blasé atmosphere of the narrative. If nothing that men fought and died for—the slavery question, for instance—was really more than an episode in westward development; if the Abolitionists are not worthy of a single mention; if the recurring phrases "it is idle to discuss", "of little importance", "a mere incident", are the true essence of historical judgment, it is but a short step to the first chapter of Ecclesiastes.

THEODORE CLARKE SMITH.

Histoire de la Fondation de la Nouvelle Orléans (1717-1722). Par le Baron MARC DE VILLIERS, avec un Préface de M. GABRIEL HANOTAUX, Membre de l'Académie Française. (Paris: Imprimerie Nationale. 1918. Pp. xvi, 130.)

THE indomitable spirit of France is evidenced by this book. In the third year of the war, at a time when the nation was gathering all its energies for a death-grapple with its brutal enemy, M. de Villiers (who was conducting a hospital for the wounded at his home in Brittany) and the national printery joined in producing a work that bears no mark of the strain of that year of horrors. The text is suggestive of "the quiet and still air of delightful studies", and the mechanical execution and dress of the book fall in no way below the highest standard of French workmanship and taste.

The book tells the story of the founding of the capital of the French colony of Louisiana, that colony of which France had such high hopes and to which she gave so many heroic men; and it concludes with a word of promise, in spirit like a benediction, of a still greater future for the capital city.